

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, the 9th meeting of National Road Safety Council was held on 22nd September, 2006 at Shimla.

(b) Krishna District Lorry Owners 'Association, Vijaywada (A.P) Zoram Drivers Union, Aizwal, Mizoram, Dr. M.N. Tandon Memorial Trust, Jaipur Rajasthan; Lifeline Foundation, Vadodara, Gujarat and Rashtriya Yuva Sangthan, Karnal (Haryana) have participated in the said meeting.

(c) to (e) The agenda items included amendment of Section 21 (2) of the Highways Administration Rules, 2004 strengthening of institutional mechanism in States for road safety and earmarking 50% of fines on account of challans on traffic violations for road safety measures in States.

It was decided to amend Section 21 (2) of the Highways Administration Rules, 2004 relating to evidence proving the ownership of vehicle or animal to the satisfaction of Highways administration if the same has been taken into custody, it was observed that there is a need to strengthen institutional mechanism in States for promoting road safety and also earmarking more funds for road safety measures in States/UTs.

Further, in order to promote road safety, it was decided to constitute a Committee of Experts to "set up Road Safety Clubs for school children to promote road safety habits". Another Committee was decided to constitute for "evolving mechanism to provide immediate trauma care services to the road accident victims" in the country.

#### **Government funds for development of NHs**

1744. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the previous Government had taken up the development of National Highways by providing Government funds through NHAI;

(b) if so, whether the present Government are taking up the Development of National Highways by Annuity and BOT method of funding;

(c) what is the difference between the mode of funding among these schemes (Government, Annuity and BOT); and

(d) if so, in which scheme the cost of the project is less?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Contracts pertaining to National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase I & II have been taken up mainly through Government funding. However, 17 contracts of NHDP Phase I and 27 contracts pertaining to NHDP Phase II have been awarded on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) (Toll)/BOT (Annuity) basis. It has been decided that the future projects pertaining to new phase of NHDP would be taken up on BOT (Toll)/BOT (Annuity) basis.

(c) Under Government funded schemes, National Highways are Constructed through funds arranged by the Government and user fee is collected by Government.

Under SOT (Toll) model, the concessionaire bears the cost of the project and he is given right to toll and responsibility of maintenance of the highway for concession period and there after, he transfers the highway to Government. The Government provides viability gap funding upto 40% of the cost of the project. In certain cases concessionaire provides negative grant to the Government in case of very high projected traffic flows.

Under BOT (Annuity) scheme, the concessionaire bears the cost of the construction and maintenance for the concession period and the Government provides them a fixed half yearly/yearly amount (Annuity) as per condition of concession. The user fee is collected by the Government.

(d) The final cost of the project depends upon several factors such as competitiveness in the market, projected traffic flows, competence of the Government/agency for construction and recovery of user fee etc. No specific scheme can be considered as least cost alternative in all circumstances.

#### **Four Laning of Ghaziabad-Lucknow Highway**

+1745. SHRI VEER PAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of Government to convert

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.